

Although we continue to mourn the loss of the thousands of victims who perished in Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath, because of Max Mayfield's cool head and steady hand the lives of the countless thousands were saved since they were able to heed Dr. Mayfield's warnings and evacuate the area. His accurate forecasts and persistent warnings have hundreds of thousands of lives over the last three decades and it is fitting that we honor him today.

Dr. Mayfield began working at the National Hurricane Center 34 years ago as an intern. Through hard work and demonstrated performance, Max Mayfield was promoted through the ranks of the National Hurricane Center: forecaster, senior forecaster, deputy director, and finally, director.

His extensive work in the field of meteorology has earned him numerous awards. In 1996, the American Meteorological Society honored him for his outstanding performance as coordinator of the National Hurricane Center's hurricane preparedness training. In 2000, he received an Outstanding Achievement Award for his work in the development and expansion of educational opportunities for state and local emergency management officials. Dr. Mayfield has also been recognized by the U.S. Department of Commerce with Gold and Silver Medals for his work during some of this nation's most destructive hurricanes.

Dr. Mayfield retired one month ago, and we will surely miss his outstanding service and leadership at the National Hurricane Center. I thank the gentleman from Florida, Mr. Mahoney, for introducing this legislation to honor Dr. Max Mayfield for his dedication to meteorology and his 34 year career of distinguished service to NOAA and our nation. For these reasons, I strongly support H. Res. 72 and urge all members to do likewise.

TRIBUTE TO JONATHAN RIVERA

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 8, 2007

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the accomplishments of one of my constituents, Jonathan Rivera of Bronx, NY. I wish to recognize Mr. Rivera for being named a semi-finalist in The New York Times College Scholarship Program. Currently a senior at Monsignor Scanlan High School, Jonathan has demonstrated both a commitment to academic excellence and to serving the community through his involvement in the Campus Ministry, making him a deserving recipient of this honor.

The New York Times awards four-year scholarships and mentoring opportunities to only 20 students each year attending New York City public schools. Recipients are selected for attaining high levels of scholastic achievement in the face of adversity.

Madam Speaker, I join to wish Mr. Rivera best wishes and good fortune in his future projects.

HONORING STATE REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS TIGUE AS HE RETIRES FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE AFTER 26 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 8, 2007

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Pennsylvania State Rep. Thomas M. Tigue, who retired this year after serving 26 years in the Pennsylvania Legislature.

Mr. Tigue represented the 118th Legislative District which includes Pittston City, Bear Creek, Buck and Jenkins Townships and Avoca, Bear Creek Village, Dupont, Duryea, Hughestown and Laffin Boroughs in Luzerne County and Chestnuthill, Eldred, Polk, Tobyhanna and Tunkhannock Townships in Monroe County.

Mr. Tigue was a member of the United States Marine Corps from 1968 to 1971. He served in the Vietnam War and earned the Silver Star. He was later elected to the Pittston Area School Board before being elected to the state House in 1980.

During his tenure as an elected state lawmaker, Mr. Tigue's accomplishments included sponsoring the PACE preservation law, securing funds to replace the dam at Brady's Lake, working to bring about property tax reform and addressing numerous education issues. Mr. Tigue was meticulous about being responsive to matters of concern and interest to his constituents.

He frequently advised his younger colleagues in the House to listen to voters. He would admonish them to be flexible, put aside partisan politics and be willing to compromise to get things done. Mr. Tigue believed that voters expect their elected officials to make tough decisions.

Mr. Tigue was born in Pittston, Pennsylvania, to Michael and the late Joan Walsh Tigue. He graduated from St. John's High School, Pittston and earned a bachelor's degree in public administration from King's College in Wilkes-Barre. He was a Legislative Fellow at East Stroudsburg University.

While serving in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, Mr. Tigue served as the Democratic chairman of the Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committees and the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee.

Mr. Tigue was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, Marine Corps League, Knights of Columbus, Greater Pittston Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Pittston Friendly Sons of St. Patrick.

He is married to the former Dianne Walsh and the couple has four children: Thomas, Tracy Ashby, Kristin Lazevnick and Colleen. They also have seven grandchildren.

On a personal note, let me add that it has been an honor and a pleasure to work with Tom on countless occasions through the years. I could always count on him to be thoroughly informed and willing to do the hard work necessary to solve what sometimes appeared to be intractable problems. Always a straight shooter, Tom never hesitated to tell the hard truth, not always what our constituents wanted to hear. His candor is all too un-

common, and his retirement is a great loss to the Legislature and to Pennsylvania.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Tigue on a very successful career in public service. His commitment to community service contributed greatly to improving the quality of life throughout northeastern Pennsylvania.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CHIEF JUDGE STEPHEN C. COOPER ON THIS RETIREMENT

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 8, 2007

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise to offer my congratulations to Chief Judge Stephen C. Cooper, who is retiring from the bench of the 46th District Court. Judge Cooper brings closure to a distinguished 33-year career in public service. In addition to his service to the 46th District Court, Judge Cooper also served as City Council President Pro-Tem for the Southfield City Council.

Chief Judge Cooper was elected to the 46th District Court in 1986 and re-elected in 1992, 1998 and 2004. His re-election was unanimously endorsed by both the Democratic and Republican Parties, both defense and plaintiffs lawyers, business and labor and every prominent elected official and community leader in his District. The Bar Association rated his performance "outstanding."

Judge Cooper was elected and served as president of the Michigan District Judges Association and currently in his second term as Michigan Governor of the American Judges Association (AJA). Judge Cooper was recognized by Optimist International as "triple distinguished president" of the Southfield-Lathrup Optimist Club.

Judge Cooper has received numerous awards including the Martin Luther King, Jr. Award which is given to a local citizen whose life exemplifies the ideals espoused by Dr. King. He was selected as the Honoree-of-the-year of the Women's Bar Association, the Governor's Award for Volunteer Service, and the Southfield Schools' Alumnus of the Year Award.

Judge Stephen Cooper was elected President of the Michigan District Judges Association, the Southfield Bar Association and the B'Nai Brith Association and was Vice President of the Southfield Chamber of Commerce. He also served on numerous boards including the Salvation Army, League of Women Voters, Anti-Defamation League, Southfield-Lathrup PTA Council, MLK Taskforce and the Easter Seals Society.

Upon retirement, Judge Cooper will direct his professional talents to the field of mediation and teaching. He will also have more time for his hobbies, including kayaking, ceramics, welding, roller-blading and, above all, enjoying life with Caroline, his wife of more than 36 years and being a grandparent.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this fine individual and thanking him for his dedication to our community. I extend my heartiest congratulations and warmest wishes as he starts this new chapter in his life.